Numb. XXXV.

The LOVER.

By MARMADUKE MYRTLE, *Gent.*

——————'tis confeſt,
The Men who flatter higheſt pleaſe us beſt.
Helen *to* Paris, Ovid's *Epiſtles.*

Saturday, May 15. 1714.

I Shall make the following Letters the Entertainment of this Day, and recommend the Contents of the firſt in a more particular manner to the ſerious Conſideration of all my Female Readers.

Dear MARMADUKE,

'THO' you have treated the Fair Sex with an 'Air of Diſtinction ſuitable to the Character 'you bear, I preſume you will make no Scruple 'to admoniſh them of any Faults, by the Amend-'ment of which they may ſtill become more amia-'ble. What I complain to you of is from my own 'Experience. My Caſe is this.

'*Miranda* is in the bloom of Sixteen, and ſhines 'in all the Beauties of her Sex. Her Face, her 'Shape, her Mein, her Wit, ſurpriſe and engage 'all who have the Happineſs to know her. *Mi-'randa* is the Idol of my Heart, the Object of all 'my Hopes and Fears. None of her Actions are 'indifferent to me. Every Look and Motion gives 'me either Pleaſure or Pain. I have omitted no 'reaſonable Methods to convince her of the Great-'neſs of my Paſſion, yet as ſhe is one with whom 'I propoſe to paſs the Remainder of my Life, I 'cannot forbear mixing the Sincerity of the Friend 'with the Tenderneſs of the Lover. In ſhort, Sir, 'I am one of thoſe unfortunate Men, who think 'young Women ought to be treated like Rational 'Creatures. I forbear therefore to launch out into 'all the uſual Exceſſes of Flattery and Romance; 'to make her a Goddeſs, and my ſelf a Madman; 'to give up all my Senſes and Reaſon to be mould-'ed and informed as ſhe thinks proper.

'From hence ariſe all our Differences. *Miranda* 'is one of thoſe faſhionable Ladies, who, expecting 'an implicit Faith from their Admirers, are impa-'tient and affronted at the leaſt ſhew of Contradi-'ction.

'As ſhe was lately reading the Works of a cele-'brated Author, who has thought fit to repreſent 'himſelf in his Writings under the Character of an 'old Man, ſhe was pleaſed to obſerve, that it was 'very uncommon to ſee a Perſon at Fourſcore have 'ſo lively a Fancy, and ſo briſk an Imagination. I 'could not help informing her upon this Occaſion, 'that I had frequently had the Honour to Drink a 'Glaſs with the Gentleman, and that to my cer-'tain Knowledge he was not yet turned of Forty. 'Inſtead of thanking me for ſetting her right in this 'Particular, ſhe immediately took Fire, and asked 'me with a Frown, *Whether that was my Breeding 'to contradict a Lady*? You muſt know, Sir, this 'Queſtion uſually puts an end to all our Diſputes. 'A little while after ſhe deſired my Opinion of her 'Lap-dog, and I had no ſooner unfortunately ob-'ſerved, that his Ears were ſomewhat of the ſhort-'eſt, than ſhe roundly asked me, *Whether I de-'ſigned that for a Compliment*? I took the freedom 'from hence, in an honeſt plain way, to expoſe the 'Weakneſs and Folly of being delighted with Flattery, 'to tell her that Ladies ought not always to be compli-'mented, to enumerate the Inconveniences it of-'ten leads them into, to make her ſenſible of the 'ill Deſigns Men generally aim at by it, and the 'mean Opinion they muſt entertain of thoſe who 'are delighted with it. All this would not do; 'I could not get one kind Look from her that 'Night.

'I have told you already, that I have uſed all 'reaſonable Methods to convince her of my Paſſion, 'and I am ſure I have the Preference in her Eſteem 'to all other Pretenders. She knows I love, and,

'in

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‘ in ſpight of all her Arts to hide it, I know I am be-
‘ loved: Yet, from theſe little Differences, and a
‘ certain Coquet Humour which makes her delight
‘ to ſee her Lover uneaſie, tho’ at the ſame time
‘ ſhe torments her ſelf, I have often deſpaired of
‘ our ever coming together. I thought however the
‘ following Verſes, which I preſented to her Yeſter-
‘ day, made ſome Impreſſion on her; and if ſhe
‘ ſees you think them tolerable enough to allow
‘ them a Place in your Paper, I am in hopes they
‘ may help to haſten the happy Day.

I.

Tell me, Miranda, *why ſhould I*
Lament and languiſh, pine and die?
While you, regardleſs of my Pain,
Seem pleas'd to hear your Slave complain.

II.

Dame Eve, *unskill'd in Female Arts*
And modern ways of tort'ring Hearts,
No ſooner ſaw her Spark than lov'd,
Confeſs'd her *Flame, and* his *approv'd.*

III.

Nature ſtill breaks through all Diſguiſe,
Glows in your Cheeks, and rules your Eyes.
Love trembles in your Hands and Heart,
Your panting Breaſts proclaim his Dart.

IV.

No more, Miranda, *then be coy,*
No longer keep us both from Joy;
No longer ſtudy to conceal
What all your Actions thus reveal.

I am, Dear *Marmaduke*,

Your moſt Obedient Humble Servant.

Mr. MYRTLE,

‘I Send you the encloſed Letter, which I have
‘ lately received from a young *Templar* who is
‘ my Humble Servant. I deſire you would inform
‘ me, whether what he aſſerts be Law or Equity.
‘ His Letter runs thus.

Madam,

“HAppening lately to be in Company with a
“ venerable Lady who has a very large
“ Fortune, I was ſo complaiſant to ask her if ſhe
“ would allow me to do her the Honour to make
“ her a Wife? She was ſo kind to ask me again,
“ whether I was in jeſt or earneſt? Upon my re-
“ peating the Queſtion, ſhe returned my Civility,
“ and told me, ſhe thought I was mad. But up-
“ on my third Application ſhe conſented, that is,
“ ſhe told me poſitively ſhe would never have me.
“ This I take for an abſolute Promiſe, having been
“ frequently informed, that Womens Anſwers in
“ ſuch Caſes are to be interpreted backwards.
“ I have conſulted a Proctor in *Doctors Commons*,
“ who ſeems to be of Opinion, that it has the full
“ Force of a Contract, and that (having Witneſs
“ of it) I might recover half her Fortune, ſhould
“ ſhe offer to marry any one elſe.
“ I mention this, Madam, not only to let you
“ ſee that I can have the ſame Encouragement
“ elſewhere which you give me, but to admoniſh
“ you how much Care you ought to take of pro-
“ miſing any other Man Marriage, by declaring po-
“ ſitively that you will never have him, except

Your moſt Obedient Humble Servant,

Tom. Truelove.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

For the Good of the Publick.

Whereas ſeveral Gentlewomen, and others of that Sex, in this Kingdom, have Contracted an evil Habit of Body, wherein the vicious Humours at firſt diſpers'd thro' the whole, come at length to be lodg'd in one Part or another, and many times, for Cauſes too long here to be mention'd, are thrown down upon the Womb, occaſioning a dangerous Weakneſs in that part, which being neglected, at laſt turns Cancerous, and often proves fatal. I Cure the Diabetes when given over by all other Perſons. This is to acquaint all ſuch as may have occaſion, that a ſpeedy Relief is to be had from an experienc'd Midwife, dwelling now at the Sign of the Queen's Arms, a Goldſmiths near Exeter Change in the Strand, who perform'd a Cure upon a Lady at the Bath, after ſhe was given over by Phyſicians, and ſince has cur'd ſeveral Gentlewomen and others in the City and Suburbs of London.

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-----Si quid noviſti rectius iſtis,
Candidus imperti; ſi non, his utere mecum. Hor.

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